## R. R. TIME TABLES St. L., Pt. S. & W. R. R. EAST ROUND TRAINS. Wichita & Colorado. leaves for Hutchinson ... 9:45 a.m. and 7:20 p.m. A., T. & S. F. R. R. Passenger. e. W. CLEMENT JR.

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SOME FACTS ABOUT CALIFORNIA'S GROWING INDUSTRY.

Great Wide Green Fields of Grapes. Little Left to Will or Nature-"Slips" or "Cuttings"-A Well Trimmed Vine yard-Gathering the Fruit.

I am going to set down some facts about rapes and this very great industry which I have come across out here in the California vineyards. In the first place, it may not be generally known that we gather two crops a year out here from the most of our vines. But this is the case. It seems strange to see the great wide green fields of grapes still continue green, as green as it is possible for green to be, all the season through, without a drop of water, and go right on and blossom and bear a second crop so seen as the first one is gathered; and it is a fact to store up in yo memory and set down to the credit of Cali

There are perhaps fifty kinds of vines here: maybe I could safely double that number But the most popular grape is a Hungarian variety. We use no Spanish vines now except the hardy and honest old "mission grape." And where the mission grape came from no one now can tell. Of course it is of Spanish origin, brought here by the monks; but it is not to be found in any part of Spain now. This, the mission grape, which was for many years the only kind of grape grown in Cali-fornia, is not used for wine-making at all now, nor is it grown to any great extent. But it is a good table grape, and the few re-maining vineyards of this variety are devoted to the table and to the making of brandy.

The great improvement in California wines within the last few years is due largely to the improvement in the plant. It would only lead to confusion, and few would care to read the long list of rare grapes that you almost daily here about here in the heart of the greatest grape land in the world, and so I will not give the names, but the search for rare and suitable grapes is zealous and persistent all over the world. Men are kept constantly traveling in Europe and Asia seeking

MODERN GRAPE CULTURE The vermin which attacked and destroyed the vines of France is a sort of louse which destroys the root of the vine. It has made its appearance in California, but its advance has been checked, and its further progress is not greatly feared. Still, it is conceded that the Californian who claimed to have discovered a certain remedy, and secured a patent for the same, has not yet received the millions which France and Italy offered as a reward. I may mention that when the panic incident to the appearance of the vermin in the grape fields here was at its height the grapo growers resorted to the Missouri grapes, with good results. The louse does not attack American

vines, only imported ones.

But there is little left to the will or the nature of the vine in modern grape culture You will have to tear down all the clamber ing vines which the old Greeks loved to pic ture on their vases or in their poems. There is little left that is poetic in the grape here. There is nothing that is even beautiful except this one broad sea of green, and this is beautiful indeed when brought into sharp contrast with the yellow and russet and tawny old lion-like hills which tower up and hang high over these emerald seas of vine.

"The grape is not raised from either the seed or root, but from "slips" or "cuttings" like the cane in the southern states. You can cut off almost any part of a grapevine and stick it in the ground, give it anything like half a chance, and in less than three years it will be clinging to rock or stump, brier or bush, anything that is nearest, cover-ing up with its wonderously beautiful leaves and tendrils all the hard angles and ugly features of whatever it clings to trying its best to make this beautiful world still more beautiful. Another evidence of its sweet femininity. But after this "cutting" has taken root and had one or two years of leisure and liberty in the nursery, it is dug up and set in regimental line, no more to run riot or grow and reach out and cling, and cover up the follies and the faults of others.

A WELL TRIMMED VINHYARD

These cuttings are now planted about as wide apart—one in each hill—as corn in the great corn fields of the west. And it is at once cut down almost to the ground. As I said before, you must abandon all your old picture ideas founded on Bible tales or tra-ditions from profane history. For the grape in California is permitted to be only a stu Every year it is shorn down almost to the Out yonder in the almost shoreless sea of green grapevines you can find stumps of grape trees almost as thick as your body. But the vines are only of this year's growth. A well trimmed vineyard in California, after the last crop is gathered, looks exactly like a field of stumps in a clearing.

Not much romance or beauty about that. But there is plenty of money and this is the way that pays best, and poetry must yield to

How much will one acre yield! Well, in Mapa valley they show you a field that yields fourteen tons of grapes to the acre. But this is an extraordinary yield. From eight to ten tons is the average crop. These grapes are sold by the ton. They are sometimes sold as they stand; sometimes they are sold on deliv-ery at some wine press. They bring from \$30 to \$30 per ton, according to the yield, as a

The prelitiest and clearest employment I ever saw is that of gathering grapes. But it is hard on the back, and in the end is not easy work. Of course, the ugly stumps are en-tirely hidden by the vines long before harvest time. Indeed, the thousand vines and ten-drils and blossoms that branch out from the little black stump in the earliest days of spring have long before harvest time completely covered every inch of ground with vines and leaves and tendrils that reach al-most to year walst. And the samp is one solid mass of inscious grapes. They are all there elinging to the stump, not confidend about over the ground on the long vines that are to be shorn away. But you begin to feel down in the derso mass of loaves and tendrils for your stump, and at every stamp you that

a little cartical of grapes.

But, alas, notwithstanding all I can say or do, I fear asy fellow laborer will cling to the dirty alleys of the dismal cities, bug his hatred of those who have toiled and traved danger and made life a success. He prefers the per-house for his children to the green grapefields and the sweet air of the roomy west. Joaquin Miller in The Chicago Times.

Prince Blamarck's 11csh. A Berlin paper informs its readers that when Bismarck was at Kissengen the other day he had himself weighed and found that the number was 208 pounds—a gain of three pounds over last year. Ten years ago he weighed 217; in 1877, 239, and in 1879 even 243, whereupon he got alarmed and tried the "Schwenninger cure," which in three years educed his weight to 203 pounds. While he takes the waters at Kissengen the chanceller ascertains his weight every time, and his for to the owner of the scales is invariably three marks, or seventy-five cents. Bismarck's wife weight only 132 pounds. The weight of his famous dog, the Reichshund, and his footmen, is unfortunately not given.-Chicago

New York's Blind Poor. New York city every year appropriates \$30,000 for the relief of the blind poor. A list of blind residents is kept, and a card sent to them when an appropriation is made, when they go to the office of the superintendent of out-door poor and receive their money. If any of these pensioners behave badly, after re-monstrance, they are cut off from the benefit of the appropriation for the year.—Chicago

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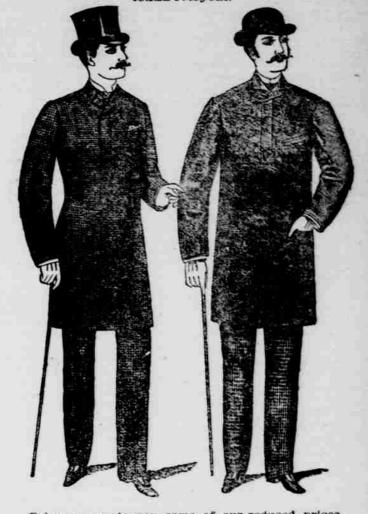
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